

Applicant: Boney A. Mathew

Serial No.: 10/603,549

Amendment dated December 15, 2004

Reply to Office Communication dated December 1, 2004

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following;

[0017] Referring to the Figures 1 through 6, wherein like numerals indicate like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, a method of making a part is generally shown at **10**. The method **10** includes a step of placing an insert **12** having sides **14** and an open top **16** and a bottom surface **18** into a mold cavity **20** defined between plates **22**, **24** of a first mold **26** followed by a step of injecting an insulating layer composition **28** through a nozzle **29** and into the mold cavity **20** of the first mold **26**. The insulating layer composition **28** encapsulates the bottom surface **18** and the sides **14** of the insert **12** to form an insulating layer, generally indicated at **30**, around the insert **12**. The insulating layer **30** includes sides **32** and a bottom **34** to expose the open top **16** of the insert **12**. The insulating layer **30** is formed of a homogeneous compressible or flexible material such as expandable polymer that includes and is not limited to thermoset elastomer, thermoset elastomer with filler, thermoplastic elastomer, thermoplastic elastomer with filler, rubber, compressible polymer, and compressive polymer with filler, or the like. In the alternative embodiment of the present method **10**, the step of injecting **29** the insulating layer composition **28** includes injecting of expanded homogeneous compressible or flexible material formed during expansion process. As appreciated by those skilled in the art, the expansion process, commonly known as “foaming”, takes place while injecting the insulating layer **30**. The expansion process requires a blowing agent such as CELOGEN HT 550™, sold by Uniroyal Chemical. Another exothermic blowing agent such as Activex 545™, sold by B.I. Chemicals, Inc. is also used during the

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expansion process.